



DNT INC. – NEW PATENTS GRANTED AND RECEIVES SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL GRANT FUNDING

MELBOURNE, 18 NOVEMBER 2003: Starpharma Pooled Development Limited (ASX: SPL) today made the following announcements regarding its 49.9% owned associate Dendritic Nanotechnologies, Inc. (“DNT”):

1. US Patents Granted

The US Patent Office has issued a new patent relating to convergent self-branching polymerization (US Pat 6632889 B1). DNT has an exclusive worldwide royalty-free license to this technology, which relates to novel techniques for production of low cost large dendritic structures. The technology has applications for a wide range of industrial products where cost of production has been a critical development hurdle.

DNT also has royalty-free license rights to another patent recently granted by the US Patent Office relating to core shell tecto dendrimers (US Pat 6635720 B1). This patent covers the building of larger nanotech structures using multiple dendrimer arrays. The intellectual property covered by the patent allows the creation of large precisely manufactured nanostructures with new properties. Applications are very broad across medical, electronic, and chemical industries and DNT is exploring opportunities to exploit the technology in each of these fields.

DNT President and Chief Scientific Officer Dr Donald A. Tomalia is an inventor on all of the above patents.

2. Additional US Army Grant Funding

DNT continues to be very successful in attracting significant grant funding. In 2002 DNT and Central Michigan University together received a grant from the US Army for US\$3.5 million to establish “The Center for Dendrimer Based Nanotechnology”. These funds are being applied to purchase state-of-the-art nanoscience equipment, attract key nanoscience experts, and support several subcontracts. The original grant has now been extended with an additional US\$3.0 million, and further to this continuing grants and contracts of at least this level are anticipated until 2008.

DNT was also a successful applicant amongst strong competition to be a part of the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnology (“ISN”). The ISN is a US\$90 million consortium managed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology to

develop nanotechnology for the army of the future. DNT is one of seven industrial charter members including DuPont, Raytheon, Dow Corning, Nomadics, Carbon Nanotechnologies and Triton Systems. In addition to validating DNT's science, this program provides the company with access to many leading scientists in synergistic technologies enhancing the ability to address diverse technical opportunities. Participation in the ISN has also significantly increased DNT's profile as a key player in nanotechnology in the US.

The level of US government and other international support for nanotechnology, and DNT's position in the nanotechnology industry, are referred to in a series of articles highlighting nanobiotechnology in the October 2003 edition of Nature Biotechnology (Volume 21 Number 10).

Starpharma established DNT with the pioneer of dendrimer nanotechnology Dr Donald Tomalia and now has a 49.9% equity interest in DNT together with commercialization rights to pharmaceutical applications relating to DNT dendrimer intellectual property.

Dr John Raff, the Chief Executive Officer of Starpharma, said "DNT is now successfully established as a significant participant in the US nanotechnology industry and has achieved this with minimal equity funding. DNT continues to be a very important strategic partner and investment for Starpharma and we are excited about its future prospects in both the short and medium term".

Starpharma Pooled Development Limited (ASX:SPL) is a registered pooled development fund with investments in wholly owned subsidiary biopharmaceutical companies focused on the development and application of dendrimer nanotechnologies as drugs against major diseases. Starpharma lead dendrimer product, VivaGel™ recently received clearance from the US FDA for human clinical trials. VivaGel™ is a topical microbicide gel product that has been developed for women as a preventative against the sexual transmission of HIV. It is also active in animal studies for the prevention of other sexually transmitted diseases including Genital Herpes and Chlamydia.

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